



Current Disease Program Participant

OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION

BACKGROUND

Chances are, you have a client who participates in a State/Federal animal disease program that uses official animal identification. These programs include, but are not limited to:

- Bovine Tuberculosis
- Brucellosis Vaccination and Testing
- EIA Testing
- Scrapie
- Chronic Wasting Disease
- Bovine Babesiosis (Texas Cattle Fever)

New 840 official devices are now used for multiple disease programs. This means that more than one disease can be traced using the same animal identification, increasing the value of program participation.



DID YOU KNOW?

The number of heifers vaccinated annually for brucellosis has decreased by more than 55 percent since 1992.

COOPERATIVE BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION PROGRAM

SETTING THE SCENE:

For the past 20 years, your client, Ted Johnson, has participated in the Cooperative Brucellosis Eradication Program (CBEP). Brucellosis was once widespread among the cattle population near Ted's operation in western Colorado, and he's old enough to remember the stories about outbreaks in years past. The CBEP has been very successful at eliminating the disease. Much of its success can be attributed to the use of USDA official brucellosis vaccination eartags as a part of the official brucellosis calfhood vaccination process.

Ted is aware that many of his neighbors have stopped vaccinating for brucellosis, and he's considering dropping out of the program, too. You know that Ted would benefit from knowing that 840 AIN devices can be used for a number of purposes.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

"We've talked before about how I'm vaccinating fewer and fewer cattle for brucellosis. Seems like the more successful we are with these disease programs, the more people drop out. That's not necessarily a good thing," you say.

"Why is that?" asks Ted.

"The whole point of these programs is to trace disease and stop its spread," you explain. "Fewer officially tagged animals means it takes longer and longer to trace a disease to its source and control it."

"So the success of the program may actually be causing a problem for the cattle industry?" asks Ted.



KEY POINTS:

- The purpose of the CBEP and other similar animal health programs is to trace disease and stop its spread.
- Due to the success of these programs, however, fewer animals are being officially tagged. This is particularly a problem for the cattle industry and limits tracing capability, should the need arise.
- NAIS offers a simplified way to select one animal identification system that can be used for both official disease program work and for routine management and identification needs.
- You can use 840 AIN devices to participate in NAIS and animal health programs like the CBEP.
- You should contact an AIN device manager or reseller in your area to purchase 840 AIN devices. For more information, you can visit www.usda/nais/840.

NEXT STEPS:

- Research the process for purchasing 840 AIN devices in your State and be ready to share this information with clients.
- Go to www.usda.gov/nais/840 and find the list of AIN Device Manufacturers and the current product list of NAIS-approved 840 devices.
- If you are interested in selling and/or applying USDA 840 devices, refer to the “Steps to Becoming an AIN Device Manager/Reseller” document located at www.usda.gov/nais/840.